
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2810

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Sullivan, Quall, Upthegrove, Anderson, Conway, Kenney, Haigh, Hudgins, Santos, Simpson, and Ormsby)

READ FIRST TIME 02/12/08.

1 AN ACT Relating to enhancing resources and assistance in school
2 districts with concentrations of English language learner students;
3 amending RCW 28A.165.055; and creating new sections.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) Research has shown there is a negative
6 impact on student achievement in schools with a very large proportion
7 of low-income students and that this effect is larger than would
8 otherwise be expected without the poverty concentration. This
9 multiplier effect is the reason that federal Title I programs require
10 a special schoolwide approach to remediation in schools with greater
11 than forty percent low-income students. State allocations for the
12 learning assistance program also provide a resource enhancement for
13 school districts with greater than forty percent low-income students.

14 (2) Research has not been conducted regarding a possible multiplier
15 effect on student achievement from high concentrations of English
16 language learner students. However, it is very clear that English
17 language learner students face significant challenges in meeting the
18 state's academic learning standards. Resources from the transitional
19 bilingual instruction program are intended to provide these students

1 with English language competencies, but a significant proportion of
2 these students need additional learning opportunities and assistance if
3 they are expected to meet the same standards as other students. Some
4 school districts in the state have a disproportionate number of both
5 English language learner and low-income students and thus face a
6 disproportionate challenge in assisting these students.

7 (3) Therefore, the legislature intends to provide a resource
8 enhancement to school districts through the learning assistance program
9 based on high concentrations of English language learner students.

10 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.165.055 and 2005 c 489 s 1 are each amended to
11 read as follows:

12 (1) Each school district with an approved program is eligible for
13 state funds provided for the learning assistance program. The funds
14 shall be appropriated for the learning assistance program in accordance
15 with the biennial appropriations act. The distribution formula is for
16 school district allocation purposes only. The distribution formula
17 shall be based on one or more family income factors measuring economic
18 need.

19 (2) In addition to the funds allocated to eligible school districts
20 on the basis of family income factors, enhanced funds shall be
21 allocated for school districts where more than twenty percent of
22 students are eligible for and enrolled in the transitional bilingual
23 instruction program under chapter 28A.180 RCW as provided in this
24 subsection. The enhanced funding provided in this subsection shall
25 take effect beginning in the 2008-09 school year.

26 (a) If, in the prior school year, a district's percent of October
27 headcount student enrollment in grades kindergarten through twelve who
28 are enrolled in the transitional bilingual instruction program, based
29 on an average of the program headcount taken in October and May,
30 exceeds twenty percent, twenty percent shall be subtracted from the
31 district's percent transitional bilingual instruction program
32 enrollment and the resulting percent shall be multiplied by the
33 district's kindergarten through twelve annual average full-time
34 equivalent enrollment for the prior school year.

35 (b) The number calculated under (a) of this subsection shall be the
36 number of additional funded students for purposes of this subsection,

1 to be multiplied by the per-funded student allocation rates specified
2 in the omnibus appropriations act.

3 (c) School districts are only eligible for the enhanced funds under
4 this subsection if their percentage of October headcount enrollment in
5 grades kindergarten through twelve eligible for free or reduced price
6 lunch exceeded forty percent in the prior school year.

7 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. If specific funding for the purposes of this
8 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
9 June 30, 2008, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
10 void.

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